7th May 1954]

with a suggestion that if any betterment contribution was forthcoming, the question would be considered again. Now, Mr. Kunhan has represented that people are willing to pay some contribution. Therefore, the matter is being looked into again."

*Mobile medical vans for South Arcot district.*

* 558 *Q*.—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government propose to purchase any mobile medical vans for the benefit of the rural parts of South Arcot district; and

(*b*) the cost of a mobile van and the number of villages that can be benefited by a van?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) The cost of a mobile medical unit is as follows :—

*Recurring*—Staff, maintenance and running charges of van, etc.—Rs. 19,400 per annum.

*Non-recurring*—Cost of van, equipment and furniture—Rs. 16,800.

The mobile medical unit can serve ten villages within a radius of 10 miles of its base visiting each village three days in a week."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Is the Hon. the Minister aware that the comparative advantage that may be derived by the use of mobile vans will be much greater than the expenditure incurred on the purchase of these mobile vans?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" That is why, Sir, we are trying in the first instance to work the scheme with five mobile medical units. This is an experimental scheme and on its success depends its extension to other districts."

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY :—" In this year's Budget provision is made for the purchase of new mobile medical vans. How many such vans are proposed to be put into operation this year?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Five mobile medical units."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" In view of the large deficiency in the matter of hospitals in South Arcot district, may I ask whether the Government will try this experiment in the South Arcot district with one unit at least?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I have already stated that the suggestion will be considered in future."

SRI V. GOPALA GOUNDER :—" Has any request been made in this behalf either by the Collector of South Arcot or the District Medical Officer or by any other private individual?"

[7th May 1954

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There has been no such request."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I wish to know from the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition whether we can ration supplementary questions—that is, one question for one Member."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I think, Sir, you can exercise your discretion."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I am doing it. But would it not be better if a rule is made? "

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" We can make it later, Sir, after consultations."

*Construction of an anicut across Varaganathi at Puthupalayam, Gingee taluk.*

* 559 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to construct an anicut in the Varaganathi at Puthupalayam in Gingee taluk, South Arcot district?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" There is no such proposal."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" Will the Government give permission to the ryots to construct an anicut in Varaganathi with their own money and labour and will they give directions to the department concerned accordingly? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" There is no such proposal at present. If the hon. Member wants to make any representation let him make it to me in writing."

*Recognition of the Homœopathic system of medicine.*

* 560 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether this Government have considered the proposal of giving recognition to Homœopathic system of medicine in this State; and

(*b*) if not, why?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Government have considered the question, and have decided not to recognize it as a working system of Medicine."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMI :—" May I know why? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Government consider that we should content ourselves with practitioners in Modern Medicine and in Indigenous Medicine."